# LETTERS

Selected, from an ACCOUNT of

Work-Houses and Charity-Schools

FOR

Employment of the Poor

IN

ENGLAND,

WITH A

## PREFACE

To excite some such Application of our Charity in IRELAND.

#### DUBLIN:

Printed by and for J. Hypz, Bookseller in Dames-Street, MDCCXXVIII.



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# PREFACE

HERE was published in England, about two Years ago, An Account of feveral Work-Houses and Charity-Schools for employing the Poor, and promoting Work and Labour. Tou have here presented to you some few Letters selected from that Account, to recommend and excite Some Such Application of our Charity in Ireland. And tho we may not be able immediately to introduce their Method into general Practice, yet it may be hoped among so many generous, charitable Benefactors, which have already been found in this Nation, Something may be done for the more useful Relief of our numerous Poor, than has hitherto been undertaken.

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We

We labour under two very apparent Disadvantages in endeavouring to execute the English Parochial Scheme, tho it succeeds so well on the other Side of the Water.

One is, That we have no poor Rate, nor indeed are able to undergo such a Tax, from the general narrow Circumstances of those among us, who are barely above Want.

The other is, That we are not able to vend several Manufactures, about which many of our Poor might be usefully employed.

Tet even under these unfavourable Circumstances something may be attempted, and what a Parish or a Barony cannot support, may be raised by the common Contribution of Cities, and great Towns, or by several Parishes, and some Baronies joining and uniting to Build, and maintain these Work-Houses and Schools together.—That something in this Way may be effected, we have all the Reason in the World to apprehend from those good Dispositions which already appear without great Wealth.

The growing Success of the Charity-Schools these ten Years past, tho the Children are neither Lodged, nor Dieted together, gives full Evidence of a Willingness to do good, and to distribute to the Indigent.

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This Compassionate Spirit has been raised and employed to improve Christian Knowledge, and to encourage honest Labour. And to promote such happy Effects most successfully, what can be, with more probability contrived, than to lodge, and maintain these Objects of your Concern, in proper Houses for the Purpose, under discreet Regulations?

As to Labour, there may be proper Employments found, which may contribute some little to their Maintenance, and Leisure enough for their learning to Read and Write and cast Accompts. The pliable Aptness which arises from an early Custom of Labour, will be of infinite Use to recommend them to Masters in every Business of Life. And this Manner of Employment too will discover something of the Genius of every Child.

As to Christian Knowledge, this may be eafily imagined to be the most likely, and most hopeful Method of Fixing and Confirming those of our own Communion in the Principles of Vertue, and of engaging and establishing those of other Communions, who are brought up under this regular Discipline. You cannot well conceive, that our Holy Religion has any other Difficulties, but Ignorance and Prejudice to contend with among the lower Rank of Mankind. And these Difficulties will

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be most effectually removed by this Provision. The Poor Child is trained up to Knowledge, and that Biass of Prejudice is prevented, which, without this Caution, the Relations of Popish Children will ever labour to infuse. It is hoped, and it is not unreasonable to hope, that as happy Effects, towards a Reformation in this Kingdom, may ensue from this Conduct, as from any other Method yet undertaken; for consider, that the Bulk of the Papists in Ircland are poor People, and therefore are very little influenced by the Penal Laws. This most Christian Method of converting them, by taking their Children into a Family-State of Tuition, along with our own, in Publick Workhouses, will train them alike to Knowledge, and it will alike unite them in Duty, to fear GOD and to honour the King.

The Benefits arifing from this Scheme are present, and future. The present Benefit is poured down upon the needy, and indigent Object to relieve his Wants, and so far Charity excites our Concern. The future Benefit regards the general Good of the Community, in providing so many useful Hands for the Common-wealth, and here our universal Interest concludes the Prospect, which our Charity has opened.

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It has been observed in a Letter from the Society for promoting Charity-Schools, printed some Tears ago, "That the greatest Num" ber of the Boys educated in Charity-Schools, "might most usefully, to themselves and to the "Publick, be put out in Apprenticeship to "Farmers, Planters, and Gardiners.

The Common Condition of this Kingdom calls for such Improvement, and the particular Necessities of this Season have awakened the Concern of the Legislature to encourage Tillage. As an Act of Parliament is the Sense of the Wisest, and Wealthiest Part of a Nation, one might hope, that such an Appointment would be received and complied with, by all Sorts of People, more out of Choice and Disposition, than Necessity, and Compulsion. This Turn of our Minds to Husbandry will make for the landed Interest, a real Increase of Fortune, and it will provide a certain Support for the Labourers in this kind of Improvement to maintain that real Increase. In this view, there is a necessary Correspondence formed between the affluent Estate of Gentlemen, and the comfortable Maintenance of inferiour Persons, and without doubt the different Conditions of Fortune allotted to the same human Nature, were defigned for the mutual Benefit, and Beauty of the Whole. It is irksome to generous Prosperity to have daily Spectacles of the Misery of

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our Fellow Creatures, and perhaps there is something very reasonably selfish attending this Compassion, for the Prosperity of one Part of a Nation is not likely long to subsist, when the Misery of the greater Part spreads, and increases.

Such Apprehensions naturally lead our Concern to some Remedy; nothing seems to be more wanted to promote our Temporal Welfare, than the Improvement of Husbandry, and nothing feems more easily supplied. Tou will observe from Mr. Pearson's last Treatise of Husbandry, that a Boy at Fourteen Tears of Age is capable of holding His Plough. And to provide a Supply of Touths for that Service, and for the common Business of a Country Life, it may not be improper to improve the Hint, in our Charity-Schools, which he gives us, That the Youth defigned for Husbandry, should read, and should be instructed in Treatises of Agriculture, as the Boys designed for the Sea, are prepared with the Art of Navigation. Accordingly upon a general Notice from their corresponding Members of the Acceptableness of such Sort of Instruction, it will be willingly undertaken by the Society for promoting Charity-Schools, to collect the most necessary useful Rules of Husbandry in all Kinds, with the most improving Observations, from many excellent

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large stanc cellent large Treatises now extant, and so publish the same for the Use proposed.

These Observations are bitherto laid out upon the Poor Boys; it will be necessary now to take Some Notice of the Female poor Children: What Need we have to lay out Some Part of our Concern upon them, is both to be confessed, and lamented, from the common Complaint of ignorant, unfaithful, dishonest Servants of that Sex. In the place of many Arguments to excite, and so direct our Way of improving them to the Practice of Vertue, and Expertness of Labour, you are defired to read the following Letters from Greenwich; there you will find an Account of the most exact Regulation, and happy Success of that School, both supported and regulated by the Gentlewomen of that Town. We may already see into the Success of that Account here, where the Ladies want no Disposition to do good. We have nothing to do in our Solicitations with them, but to desire leave to present these Objects of Compassion before their Eyes.

It is feared this may exceed the Bounds of a Preface to a short Entertainment of a very sew Sheets; this Subject of Charity opens into a large Field in a poor Country. This Circumstance of Poverty affords the greater Exercise for our Endeavours to redress it.

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PREFACE.

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This Address is not intended strictly to prescribe the Method of effecting this good Work; it will be enough if it excites the Concern of those, who are able to give it Execution. These Undertakings are likely first to have their Effect in Cities and Towns, or perhaps the warm Piety of some Worthy Country Gentlemen, may be foremost in this true Labour of Love. The Design of such Undertakings in the Benefactors, must be allowed to take its Rise from Undissembled Piety, and a generous Concern for the publick Good; and what Blessings, Personal and National, may ensue, is



only known to that GOD, for whose Glory

these good Works shine among Men.

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## PREFACE

Already Publish'D to

### The ENGLISH EDITION.

the Reformation has produc'd Acts of Parliament for taking Care of the Poor, yet, by one Means or other, the good Intentions of the Legislature have been, in a

great measure, defeated.

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The Laws which prescribed employing the Poor, promis'd fairest for easing the Publick, as they offer'd a Cure for Idleness, the great Cause and Fuel of Poverty; but the Execution of those Laws has been greatly discouraged by the Difficulties attending the setting the Poor to work: For by that Time the Materials for imploying them, the Waste, and the Charge of Instructors were

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paid

paid for, the Managers, whether publick or private, were generally brought into Debt, and had a vast deal of Trouble, but no Thanks for their Pains.

The Failure of most Attempts for employing the Poor, has been generally owing to the expecting too much Prosit from their Labour: for, alas! what great Gains can be hop'd for, from old, insirm People, who are past Labour, or young unexperienced Children, who have every Thing to learn?

Many Parishes therefore have of late been so wise, as to be at the whole Expence, which may be occasion'd by any Desiciency in the produce of the Labour of the Poor; taking Care, at the same Time, that they should be under the Direction of Persons they can conside in for a frugal Management.

And, wherever Houses have been hired or built, as the \* Act of the 9th of K. GEORGE directs, for gathering the Poor into one or more Families, and setting them to Work, under the Inspection of honest Managers, the respective Parishes have found (as may be seen in the Instances collected in the following Treatise,) most, if not all, the Advantages following; viz.

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<sup>\*</sup> See an Abstract of this Act at the End of this Account.

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frugal Management, after a House and necessary Accommodations are provided, shall go further in keeping comfortably one or more large Families of Poor, than 3 or 400 l. per Annum, distributed to the like Number of Poor when they live dispers'd.

All friendless Orphans, and Children of the Poor, are in these Houses happily provided for, and put in a Way of being a Blessing, instead of a Burden to their Country.

No Vagabond Poor dare come into, or stay long in a Parish, where such a House is erected.

The Rules of governing such an House, tho not stricter than what are common in all regular Families, oblige the Poor to keep good Hours; to refrain spending their little Gains in Brandy-Shops and Ale-Houses, to the Destruction of their Health; to be mutually assisting to each other in Sickness, or under the Insirmities of Age; to avoid the Temptations of Pilfering and House-breaking, in order to supply their Wants, which are now much better provided for in all Respects, both

both for their Souls and Bodies, than when they liv'd on common Begging, or in a miserable ruinous Cottage, not knowing where to get the next Meal for themselves or their Children.

Beside these Advantages, the introducing among the Poor, Habits of Sobriety, Obedience, and Industry, will secure any Parish from an Entail of Poverty and Idleness, and lay such a Foundation for the suture Comfort of their Poor, as will make them useful to one another, and not a little beneficial to the Publick.

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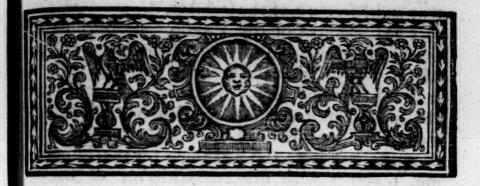
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# ACCOUNT

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Work House in Bishopsgate-Street, LONDON.



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OON after the Restoration, in the 13th and 14th Years of the Reign of King Charles II. An Act of Parliament past, Entituled, An Act for the better Restief of the Poor of this Kingdom;

wherein, among other Things, Provision was made for forming one or more Corporations, in the Cities of London and Westminster, and for Erecting and Governing such Work-House, or Work-Houses, as should be Erected for employ-

ing

ing the Poor of those Cities, according to the In-

tent and Meaning of the said Act.

The Calamities of the Plague, and Burning of the City of London, &c. delay'd the good Effects of this Act, till after the Peace of Ryswick, when, in the Year 1698, April the 4th, in Order to put the said Act in Execution, a Corporation was formed, consisting of the Lord Mayor for the Time being, as President, the Aldermen for the Time being, together with sifty two Citizens, chosen by the Common-Council, to be Assistants; and the said President and Assistants, elected a Deputy-President, and Treasurer, as the said Act directs. And for laying a Foundation of so good a Work, a Supply was granted in December following, by an Act of the Common Council.

In August 1699, the Corporation took a House in Bishopsgate-street, and were at great Charges in building and fitting the same up for a Work-house; into which they received from the Church-Wardens such Children as were a Charge to the several Parishes, they paying a Weekly Allowance toward their Maintenance.

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In November 1700, they began to receive on the Keeper's Side, Vagabonds and sturdy Beggars; and thus they proceeded, by degrees; it being impracticable to execute all Parts of the Act at once.

The Corporation, according to the Title of the Act, beginning with the Relief of the Poor, and taking in poor Children, whose Necessities People are commonly most apt to pity, the good Fruit that was likely to be produc'd from the Education of such Children, and bringing them up to Labour, rais'd up many Benefactors; and in October 1701, the Corporation admitted Children upon the following

following Terms; every Benefactor that contributed 25 1. was allow'd to recommend a Child, and in a short time after the setting up this Work-house, the same was regulated and adapted to the several good Ends and Purposes of the Act of Parliament.

This Management was approved by the Common-Council, and a fecond Supply granted in 1702; and the leveral Orders touching the Matters aforesaid, were confirm'd, and made By-Laws. But afterwards in November 1708, it was order'd, that no Child, altho' born within the City of London and Liberties thereof, should be received from any Benefactor, giving a less Sum than 50 l. yet, that the Charity might not be too strictly confined, it was further order'd, that any Benefactor giving 70 l. might put in a Child from what Place he

thought fit.

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The House is divided into two Parts, one call'd the Steward's Side; and the other, the Keeper's Side: In the Steward's Side, poor Children are taken in from Benefactors, giving 50 or 70 l. as beforemention'd; and these Children are by that Means, with their Labour, rather a Profit than Charge to the House. On this Side are also taken in such Children, as are a Charge to the several Parishes of this City and Liberties to which they belong, and all of them religiously educated, according to the Church of England, and employ'd in spinning cople Wool, or Flax, or else in sewing or knitting. They t that are dieted and cloath'd, and duly taken Care of in on of Sickn is by Physicians, Surgeons, and Apothecabour, ries, belonging to the House; they are also taught 1701, to read, write, and cast Accompts, whereby they are

are qualify'd for Services, and honest Ways of

In the other Part, call'd the Keeper's Side, Vagabonds, Beggars, Pilferers, lewd, idle, anddiforderly Persons, committed by any two of the Governours, have such Relief as is proper for them; and are imploy'd in beating Hemp for Twine-Spinners, Hemp-Dressers, Linnen-Weavers, Shoemakers, and other Trades; as also in picking Oakum, and washing Linnen for the Children in the Steward's Side.

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In the Year 1713. This House, by reason of some unhappy Differences, was brought under great Discouragements; but, by the Interposition and good Offices of some worthy Citizens, it was kept up; and has been ever fince under so prudent a Management, that by a Series of Benefactions, the Weekly Allowances, which were about Ten Years ago Two Shillings and Six-pence a Week for each Child put in by the respective Parishes within the Liberties of the City of London, were afterwards reduc'd to Two Shillings a Week, and are now Eighteen-pence a Week, for maintaining and teaching every Child put in by any Church-Warden of the Parishes aforesaid; and 'tis hop'd in time, by the Accession of Benefactions, the Charge may be reduced much more.

And the' the Act of Parliament for supporting ploy this House, requires the Common-Council of the ferv City of London, upon a Certificate from the Corporation, of their Want of a Supply, to levy the for fame on the Citizens from time to time, not exther ceeding one Year's Rate for the Relief of the Poor; yet in ten Years past, there has been only Half : We Tax levied, amounting to 2300, or 2400 Pounds that which

which was wholly laid out in building of the Prifon-part, the Chappel, and other Accommodations for the House.

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The Work-house (exclusive of the Chappel and Prison-part) contains above 200 Feet in length, has three Rooms one over another, about 150 Feet in Length; the lowest of which is the Work-Room for Boys, the second for Girls, and the third Room has two Wards for lodging the Boys. The Girls Ward is over the Chappel, which separates the Work-house from the Prison-side.

There are now 93 Boys, and 50 Girls, in all 143 Children, taught, cloath'd, and maintain'd in this House: The Work they are imploy'd in is spinning of Jersey; but considering that 20 or 30 Boys are constantly attending by Turns, in the Reading and Writing-Schools, about two Hours every Day, Sundays excepted, what they earn being about Twopence a Day each Child, does little more than pay the Charge of the Master of the Childrens Work, the Under-teachers, the Wheels, and Waste they light make. That out of the Girls, there are ten by hing Turns kept at the Reading and Sewing-School, f the for making up and mending the Linnen for the the Boys and themselves; and about the same Number e re- are also by Turns employ'd in knitting and footing the Childrens Stockings, and the rest are imorting ployed in Spinning: So that about 85 Wheels of the serve for both Boys and Girls.

Cor- Note. These Wheels are bought in Old-Bedlam, by the for Sixteen-pence a-piece; and eight Reels bought of exthere at the same Price, serve the House.

Poor: A Gentleman in Spittle-fields, concern'd in the Half Weaving-Trade, finds the Wool feady comb'd ounds that imploys the Children, and takes off the Yarn

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when spun at a Penny per Skain, whether fine or coarse, each Skain containing 240 Threads or Turns round the Reel.

The following is a Bill of Fare for every Week.

Sunday	Breakfast. Bread and	Dinner. Beef and	Supper. Bread and
Sunday	Beer.	Broth	Butter or Cheese
Monday	Beef-Broth.	Peafe-Por- ridge	Ditto
Tuefday	Bread and Butter or Cheefe	Rice Milk	Ditto
Wednesday	Ditto	Plumb-Dum- plins	Ditto
Thursday	Ditto	Beef and Broth	Ditto
Friday	Beef-Broth	Barley-Broth	Ditte
Saturday	Bread and Butter or Cheefe	Milk-Por- ridge	Ditto

In Summer-time, Peafe, Beans, Greens and Roots are allow'd, as the Season affords them.

The Children attend Prayers twice every Day in the Chappel; and the sturdy Beggars, and loose tak People, who are now in Number about 60, attend there in a Place by themselves.

refr By the Account of this Work-House, publish'd at Easter 1725, it appears, that there have been, mer fince the Year 1701, educated, discharg'd, and ings plac'd forth Apprentices

To Officers of Ships, to Trades, and \$ 1782 to Services in several good Families, 5

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And in the same time there have been receiv'd and discharg'd, of sturdy Va- 212265 gabonds, Beggars, &c .-

An Account of the Work-House at St. Mary White-chappel, in Ayliffe-Street, near Lambeth - Street, Goodman's Fields.

June 3. 1725.

THE Church-Wardens and Overseers of the Poor of this Parish, being convinc'd that the common Method of Relieving them might be much improv'd, for the Comfort of the Poor, and for faving Money to the Parish, propos'd to the Vestry to make an Experiment of taking the more necessitous Poor into one House, where they might be under the Care of a discreet Man and his Wife; which being agreed to, the Vestry added as many other experienc'd Gentlemen of the Parish to the Church-Wardens and Overseers, as loofe made their Number 31 Trustees for this Under-taking. These Gentlemen took an House for 16 Years, from Michaelmas 1724, and fitted it up with two large Rooms, one to work in, the other to lish'd refresh in, a Kitchin, a Wash-House, an Apartbeen, ment for the Steward, and 4 Wards, with Lodg-, and ings for receiving an 130 Men, Women, and Children, two in a Bed.

When this was done, they gave Publick Notice to the Upholsterers and Salesmen of this and the neigh-

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neighbouring Parishes, to send in Proposals for furnishing them, at the cheapest Rates, with Bed-

ding, &c. necessary for the House.

After this, the Trustees gave Publick Notice to all fuch as would furnish them with wholesome Provisions at the best Rate, and thereupon they agreed with

A Brewer, for Beer, at 8 s. a Barrel, 30 Gal-

lons to the Barrel.

A Baker, for Houshold Bread, at a Penny a Pound.

A Butcher, for Beef, at 7 Farthings a Pound.

A Milk-Woman, for Milk, at 10 Quarts for a Shilling.

A Cheese-Monger, for Cheese, at 3 d. a Pound;

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and Butter at & d. a Pound.

They agreed also with a Steward to bespeak Provisions, &c. daily or weekly, as wanted, and to keep an Account of all fent in by these Tradesmen, as well as other Expences of the House; and that the his Wife should direct the Affairs of the Kitchin, and keeping the House clean.

The Trustees then enquir'd into the Circum-Stances of their Parish Pensioners, and gave Notice to the most helpless of them to come to this House or that they would be discharg'd from the Parish

Books, as the Act of Parliament directs.

20 Men and Women from 40 to 80 Years of

Age, and

8 Children, Boys and Girls, from 4 to 8 Years old, came into the House about Lady-Day 1729 and more are daily adding to the Number; while others chose to struggle with their Necessities Cal and to continue in a starving Condition, with the 12 Liberty of haunting the Brandy-Shops, and such W. like Houses, rather than submit to live regularly

in Plenty.

None are compell'd to come into this House, that want only a little present Relief, while they or their Children are under a Fit of Sickness, or other Misfortunes. Nor are any of those that do come into the House, oblig'd to work beyond their Strength, or more than is consistent with their Health: And if any are fick, they are carefully nurs'd by those that are well, and an Apothecary finds the House with all necessary Medicines for 12 l. per Annum. If any are destitute of Ap+ parel, they are provided at the Publick Charge, by the Trustees. The Washing is all done in the House, and the Women make and mend all the Linnen.

Though much Profit could not be expected from the Labour of People, old or infirm, or under Age, and who were all to learn the Business they were to be employ'd in; the Trustees took chin, into Consideration how to set them to work in some easie Business, consistent with their Strength and Unskilfulness; and resolv'd, that they should work for nothing, for any body that would infruct them to work till their Hands were in. Up-Parish on which, a Weave in the Neighbourhood provided them with Hempen Thread, call'd Russia Tarn, to wind upon Rills for the Use of the Sackcloth and Sail-cloth Weavers.

So many People work at this, as wind off about

Year So many People work at to Pound weight in a Day.

while The same Gentleman finds Junk (Pieces of old (fities Cable) to imploy others in picking Oakum; about th the 12 work at this, and pick about 100 Weight in a d sud Week.

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The Children are employ'd in learning to read, and picking Oakum: and the rest in making the

Beds, and keeping the House clean.

The Weekly Bill of Fare is much the same as in other Places, only they have three Flesh Days in the Week, viz Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

The Steward is allow'd to give each Person daily,

r Pound of Bread.
r Quart of Beer.

2 Ounces of Cheese, or more if they want it; beside Milk-Porridge, Pease-Porridge, Beef-Broth,

or Burgow, when they don't eat Flesh.

On Flesh-Days, 4 of a Pound of Beef is allow'd each Person; according to which Proportions, the Steward lays in what is necessary for the House from Day to Day, or Week to Week, from the Tradesmen under Contract with the Trustees, and his Notes for Provisions being given to each Tradesman, are carry'd to their Cashier, and paid off at stated Times, after being compar'd with the Steward's Book. By which Method, it seems almost impossible for the Steward or Tradesmen to impole upon the Trustees, or the Trustees, if they could be so inclin'd, upon the Parishioners. And the great Humanity and Tenderness with which the Poor, under their Care, are treated, makes their Condition, in many Respects, more comfortable than some of their Neighbours.

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### Ratcliff-Hamlet, Stepney,

### A Lodging-House for the Poor.

June 1725.

THE Inhabitants of this Hamlet paying upwards of 70 l. per Annum House-Rent for the Poor, resolv'd, about two Years since, upon sitting up a large House in London-Street, belonging to the Hamlet, and now called the Town-House, for lodging all the Poor who received Pensions, and were before lodg'd at the publick Charge.

There are now upwards of 30 poor People, all Women, except two Men, in the House, who are allow'd each of them 12 d. a Week Pension, and the Liberty to get what they can by their own Industry, either at Home by Spinning, winding Silk, &c. or by going Abroad to wash, scour, sell Fish, or do any Thing else to get a Penny. And as for such Poor as will not be lodg'd in this House, a Deduction of 6 d. a Week is made from each of their Pensions, towards the Repairs, &c. of the House.

There is a Mistress, and an Assistant or two, who take Care to keep the House clean, and in Order, and are particularly charged to see the Poor all in Bed, and their Fires and Candles out, at 9 a Clock at Night, or soon after.

Note, The Vestry of the Hamlet have a Design, at the next Quarterly Meeting, to set all the Poor to work, and wholly maintain them.

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#### Of the Grey-Coat-Hospital in Westminster.

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A Proposal being made to the Vestry at St. Margaret's Westminster, about the Year 1701, they agreed to let the Trustees of the Grey-Coat-School have a large House belonging to the Parish Rent-free for seven Years; which Grant has been renew'd from time to time ever since, for the Reception of as many of the Parish-Children (with the usual Pensions given to their Nurses) as the Trustees would undertake to maintain and imploy with Work.

AT first the Trustees took in the 50 Boys belonging to the Charity-School, and at feveral times afterwards to many Boys and Girls as have fometimes increas'd the Number of Children to above 130, which is the Number of them at present, including those on the Parish Account, and have fet them all to Work; some upon spinning of Wool; others upon Housewifry, sewing, knitting, &c. And the Incomes of the Charity, with their Earnings, are appointed towards finding them in Diet, Lodging, and other Necessaries: The Management whereof succeeded so well, that, in order to lay a more folid Foundation for its Support and Maintenance, Her late Majesty was pleas'd, in the 5th Year of her Reign, to incorporate the faid School, and to make the Trustees One Body Politick, by the Name of The Governours of the Grey-Coat-

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Coat-Hospital in Tothil-Fields, of the Royal Foundation of Queen ANNE.

The better to give an Idea of the good Management of this Working-Hospital, the Reader shall first be presented with the Particulars of the Annual Expence for supporting it, as computed by a Medium taken from the Books of the House for sour Years, from 1720, to 1723 inclusive; and then with the Means of defraying this Expence.

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#### The Annual Expence.

For Repairs and Furniture, viz.

l. s. d.	
The Bricklayer 10 19 00	
Carpenter 9 09 00	
Glazier 4 12 03	
Emptying of Vaults 3 11 09	
Smith 2 12 00 Toda Bila	
For Spinning Tackle 2 15 00	
Turnery Wares 3 06 06	
The Brazier 1 15 03	
Clockmaker - 0 11 00	
Paviour 2 02 00	
Plummer 1 17 06	
For Blankets and Coverlids 6 00 06	
. Mopps 1 00 00	
66 11 09	)

#### For Cleathing.

For Woodlen Cloth—	26	01	03				
Linnen Cloth	48	08	102				
*****				74	10	I	

Carry'd forward 141 01 102 D 2 Leather

#### 1. 3. d. Brought forward 141 01 102

Leather Breeches——	10	14	041
New Shoes, Mending, &c			
The Taylor —			
For Stuffs ————			
Yarn ————	11	09	00
Caps for the Boys -	I	13	084
Bodices and Stomachers	2	04	09
Shoe Buckles———	0	16	06

91 17 54

### Provisions.

	1.	s.	d.			
The Baker —	156	02	09			
Butcher —						
Cheesemonger —						
Milk-Woman —	17	02	011			
Soap-Boiler ———						
Corn-Chandler	16	02	00			
Tallow-Chandler —				4. 10		
Coal-Merchant						
Excise of Small-Beer						
Apothecary ——	14	09	09			
05.11.65	_			516	01	074

#### Books.

The Bookfeller. 8 00 071

Carry'd forward 757 01 07

Appren

Ex

1. s. d. Brought forward 757 01 07 Apprentices. With Apprentices. Incidents. The Book of petty Disbursements 49 13 104 Salaries and Wages. The Master and Stewards 40 00 00 The Mistress and Matron 20 00 00 The Collector, Singing-Master, and Messenger 15 00 00 at & l. each -Three Nurses at 5 1. each 15 00 00 Two Spinning Women \$ 10 00 00 The Cook and Landry- 3 10 00 00 Maid at Ditto 110 00 00 974 06 094 It remains now to give an Account how the Expence of the House is defray'd by the Produce of their Labour, and the charitable Contributions of well disposed Persons.

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at Ditto .

Annual

#### Annual Receipts.

Children in Spinning, are furnish-	l.	s.	d.
ed by a Wool-Merchant in Long- Lane, South-wark; who pays 1 s. >	80	00	09
2 d. per Pound, one with another, for working it up, which annually amounts to about			
The Casual Benefactions by Gifts			
Collection at St. Margaret's Church-	894	00	00

Subscriptions and Rents, amount to

about per Annum .

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By the foregoing Account of Disbursements, it may be observed, that 130 poor Children of this Parish are not only instructed in the Principles and Duties of Christianity, but also in the Means of getting a Livelihood by their own Labour, and entirely cloath'd and maintain'd; to which, adding the Maintenance of the Steward, Matron, and ten Servants, necessary for keeping the House in Order, the Persons being in all 142, the whole Expence comes to 6 l. 17 s. 3 d. per Annum, or about 2 s. 7 d. ½ a Week each, exclusive of the Prosits by their Labour; which, according to the above Computation, reduces the Charge to about 2 s. 5 d. a Week for each Person.

(( 827 ))

And that it may appear how well they are proided for in the Article of Food, the Reader is presented with the following weekly Bill of Fare,

where	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
unday	Bread and	Beef, Broth	Bread and
	Butter or Cheese	and Peafe	Butter or Cheese.
Monday	Ditto	Bread and Butter or Cheese	Ditto
Tuefday	Each a Half- peny Roll	As Sunday	Ditto
Wednesday	As Sunday	Frumenty	Ditto
Thursday	A Half-peny Roll	As Sunday	Ditto
Friday	As Sunday	Peafe-Por-	Ditto
Saturday	A Half-peny Roll	Milk-Port	Ditto
The state of the s	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	The second second second	

N. B. They are allow'd Beer at every Meal, without any Limitation.

And as a Proof of the great Benefit of this Hobital to the Parish, there has been put out at the 10th of January 1724-5. since its Foundation, to apprenticeships and Services 391. And those who are had Servants from it, have given that Testinony of the good Fruit of the Habit of Industry equir'd by the Children under this Discipline, hat they have declar'd, they would much rather ake a Servant from hence for nothing, than to have Money with one from those Nurseries for Children, where there is no Work added to their learning.

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A Letter from a Gentleman at Greenwich, to his Friend at London, concerning the Girls School of that Place.

SIR,

Greenwich, May 4. 1724.

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N the Year 1700, several charitable Ladies of this Town, join'd their Subscriptions for setting up a School for Teaching and Cloathing 30 Girls. Some Time after a Proposal was made to the said Gentlewomen, that if they pleas'd to allow the Charge that was usually allow'd for Cloathing the Children, to be laid out in Materials for ra fetting them to Work, the Mistress might teach the the Children to make their own Cloaths; which the would have this Advantage in it, that the notating might be fav'd in the Charge, yet the Childhedren, by being inur'd to Labour, would be better the prepar'd for Services in the Families where the might afterwards be plac'd. A Tryal of this Pro mo posal for one Year was soon resolv'd on, and the he Success was such, that it has been continu'd with Peg some Improvements, ever since.

of a The Gentlewomen, who are Trustees, have Treasurer chosen among themselves; and the Accar count of Expences of this School, is kept in for lift! gular a Manner, as to be worthy the Imitation of Cris

other Schools.

In 1716. The School was in such Reputation he that the Trustees were enabled, by a Collection pripe (19)

the Church-Doors, to augment the Children from 30 to 40. And the Collection has been yearly continued ever fince for keeping up that Number: So that fince the School was first set up, about 200 Children have gone out to Services in private Families; and no sooner is there a Vacancy in the School, but Interest is made by poor Parents to get another in; so pleas'd are they with the Management of it, tho' at first, they were much averse to it.

Before an Account is given of the Method of employing them, it will undoubtedly be acceptable to you, to be inform'd of some of the Methods us'd in governing this School. The Trustees for directing it, wifely judging that Shame might have a better Effect on the Minds of their own Sex, than Fear; have order'd the Mistress to punish them rather with what may excite their Modesty, than teach their Dread of corporal Punishment. In order to which this, the Names of the Children are all enter'd on which this, the Names of the Children are all enter'd on a Table, hung up in the School; against each Name there are seven Holes, with a Peg in the first of them. When a Child commits a Fault, the Peg is remov'd one Hole from her Name, and she is admonish'd accordingly. Upon the second Offence, and the size led up to the Table; and, upon removing the d with Peg to another Hole from her Name, admonish'd gain, with an Injunction to get a Pfalm, or a Piece have of a Chapter by Heart, which the Child must take he At Care to do, or the Peg is carried on to a fourth or if the Hole, by which she is look'd upon as a high ation of Priminal upon Record in the School, till some Aonement by Task, or otherwise, has prevail'd with utation he Mistress to remove the Peg back again, and to ction wipe out all past Faults.

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If the Hearts of the Children are not melted by this Usage, the Mistress proceeds to greater Severity, by pinning a Horn-Book, or a Rod upon the Child, according to the Nature of the Offence: But for high Crimes, such as profating God's Name, Lying, or Pilfering, they are dress'd up in a Fool's Cap and Coat, and made to sit in the Middle of the School for an Hour or more, which they have in great Abhorrence. And if they have pilfer'd of any Person out of the School, they are made to go publickly in that Dress, and ask Pardon of the Person offended, which they do with great Reluctance; but this they rather do, than be turn'd out of the School, as they must be, if they don't comply with the Rules of it.

Thus the Mistress has seldom Occasion to proceed to severer Punishments, and the Children acquire under this Discipline such a Tenderness of giving Offence, as, through God's Grace, may remain with them ever after; and where they have been put out, the Modesty and Dutifulness with which they serve, has very much recommended

them.

An Account of the Materials for Employing the Children of this School, beside their Learning to Read.

THE Mistress buys the following Materials to be spun, knit, or sew'd by the Children so their Cloaths, viz.

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Wool in London for 13 d. per Pound, ready dress'd, and about 100 Pound Weight, one Year with another, ferves for making Gowns and Petticoats for 40 Children, which at 13 d. per Pound, comes to \_\_\_\_]

L. s. d.

05 08 04

This, being fpun by the Children, 1 is put out to a Weaver in London, who has 4 d. per Yard, for Weaving half Yard broad Stuff; which, as was faid, fuffices for Cloathing 40 Children for the Woollen Part, and makes about 560 Yards, which at 1

00 06 08

Note, About 14 Yards make a Gown and Petticoat, but there being a Remainder of last Year's Weaving, Year.

4 d. per Yard, costs -

there were only 416 Yards wove this Flax in Southwark, ready prepar'd

for the Wheel, there is bought 80 Pound Weight; which, being spun by the Children, serves to make so much Thread, as when wove, makes Linnen enough for the Childrens Shifts one Year, which at 8 d. per Pound comes to,

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Brought forward	1. s. d. 17 08 04
This Thread is put into the Hands of a Weaver in the Country, who weaves it about Ell-wide for 8 d. an Ell, and it generally makes .83 Ells more or less, which at 8 d. per Ell, comes to, ————)	02 15 04
Whitening the same Number of 3 Ells, at 4 d. per Ell, comes to, —3	01 07 08
Note. Each Girl is allow'd six Shifts in four Years, and all their Linnen is made up by themselves.	
nen, ferve to make 80 Aprons, for one Year's Wear, which at 6 d. per Yard, comes to,	04 00 00
80 Caps and Bands for a Year's Wearing, which at 20 d. per Ell, comes to,	03 15 00
10 Yards of Muslin for Borders at 3	01 05 00
30 Yards of Dy'd Linnen to line the Bodies and Sleeves of their Gowns at 12 d. per Yard, comes to,	01 10 00
Carried forward	32 of 04 Brought

Beside the Articles above-mentioned, so much blue Camlet is bought at 14 d. per Yard, as serves for making riding Hoods for the Childrens Use in wet Weather, which remain in the School till they are worn out; and several Materials, as Needles, Thread, Ferret, and other things, are allow'd to the Girls for making and mending their Cloaths. And as for the Article of Wheels, about 26 have serv'd the School since it was open'd, which are bought at 16 d. a Piece in Old Bedlam.

Thus, you see the whole Charge of well Cloathing 40 Girls, annually comes to 48 l. 11 s. 6 d. which is 1 l. 4 s. 3 d. ½ for one Girl; in which Expence, if what is sav'd by their Labour be not considerable, yet the Advantage accruing to the Children, by the Share they have in making and mending their Cloaths, as it makes them good Servants and good Housewives, is not to be express'd.

The most experienc'd Spinners are put to spinning Linnen, that as little Waste might be made as possible; and the Beginners are put to spin Woollen sirst, which necessarily occasions some bad Work; this is laid by, and wove by itself, to be made up into Cloaths for the Children who are Beginners, till their Hands are come better in.

Out of the Childrens Labour upon the Materials before mentioned, there is a Reserve of fine strip'd Woollen Stuff, which is apply'd to the fol-

lowing Use.

The Children, when they go to Service, are allow'd to take their School-Cloaths with them; and if they behave themselves well, at the End of the first six Months, there is given to them a striped Gown and Petticoat, out of the reserved Stock aforesaid, and 20 Shillings.

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The Trustees of this School, purposely avoid binding any of the Children out Apprentices, chusing rather to place them out to a Year's Service for 25 or 30 Shillings Wages; and if their Behaviour be such as recommends them, they are continu'd in Service a Year longer, for which they are allow'd 40 Shillings by the Families where they serve, and for a third Year 50 Shillings.

It must be observed, that the better to qualify these Children for Housewisery, the Mistress makes Choice of two or three of them to wash the School, wash and mend Linnen, scour and wash Dishes, and do such other Business, as the School affords Scope for: And these Children, when their Hands are brought into that Sort of Work, are again relieved by two or three others, at the Discretion of the Mistress.

About four Years in this School, qualify the Children for Service; and if it happen that any of these Children, by the Death or Removal of their Master or Mistress, should be out of Place, they are allow'd to return to School, to assist in Spinning, and such other Business as they are capable of, till they can be provided with another Service; and are allow'd out of the School Fund as their Labour deserves.

But tho' this Provision is made to keep them out of Idleness, there is so great a Call for Servants out of this School, that they seldom lie long upon Hand, especially if the Children have distinguished themselves by their Behaviour.

I have been the more particular in describing the Management of this School, because the Ladies, who have the Oversight of it, seem to have carry'd it to the utmost Perfection, so as to enable the

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Children to shift honestly by their own Industry, if it should be their Lot to be cast into any Part of sthe Kingdom where they might be friendless. And whoever will take the Trouble to visit the School, will with Pleasure see a Proof of what has been said; a Mistress governing with as little Severity as post and fible, and the Children applying themselves to learn m all that is taught in the School, with the utmost Chearfulness; and the Employments aforesaid not at all interfering with their learning to Read, and til fay the Church-Catechism, and attending the publick Prayers of the Church, every Day in the Year. to

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A second Letter from a Gentleman at Greenwich to his Friend at London.

SIR,

Greenwich, Aug. 13. 1724.

Am glad to acquaint you, that beside the Benefit redounding to this Place formerly mentioned, there is a generous Attempt for employing the poor People of both Sexes in this Parish.

It being observ'd that the Poor were very numerous, and cost about 800 l. to the Parish annually for supporting them; Two honourable Gentlemen of the Town offer'd to build a commodious House for Lodging and Dieting all those Poor, and provided the Parish would consent to dispose of

(14/63)

ustry, their weekly Allowances under such a Management, art of s might, with the Produce of their Labour,
And wholly maintain them.

hool. The Parishioners, taking the same into their faid; Confideration, thankfully accepted of this Offer, pol- and submitted the Direction of it to such Manage-learn ment, as the said Gentlemen should prescribe.

tmost Mr. Matthew Marryott of Olney in Buckinghamnot hire, having, with great Success, directed the set-, and ting up Houses of Maintenance for the Poor in pub- Buckinghamshire, and other Counties, was invited Year. to Greenwich, to propose a Plan, by which the like might be done there. Accordingly, this Summer, a commodious House has been built near the Church, at the Charge of the Honourable Gentlemen aforefaid; and at Midsummer, all such Poor, as receiv'd Weekly Pensions from the Parish, were admitted into it, to the Number of 90 odd, and are at present employ'd in picking of Oakum, winding Silk for the Throwsters, spinning Jersey, and such other Work as they are capable of, under Mr. Marryott's Direction.

This Undertaking being in its Infancy, it does not yet appear what will be the Success of it; but one good Effect it has already had, viz. That those that are absolutely necessitions, are better provided men for than they were before; and many of those who oying were before burthensome to the Parish, have exerted themselves, so as to live by their own Industry, y nu- to avoid giving that Burthen; by which, the Pah and rish have already sav'd considerably. And it has prov'd Gen-an effectual Means to drive Beggars out of the Town, addious notwithstanding the People in this House are lodg'd and dieted in so commodious a Manner as they are.

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P. S. They are furnish'd with old Cable cut into Pieces, commonly called Junk, from the King's Yard at Depisord, to be pick'd into Oakum, for which they allow the Work-House 4s. per hundred Weight.

#### The Bill of Fare for a Week.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	Bread and	Beef and	Bread and
	Cheese	Broth	Cheefe
Monday	Beef-Broth	Hasty-Pud- ding	Ditto
Tuelday	Milk-Por- ridge	Plumb-Pud- ding	Ditto
Wednesday	Milk-Por- ridge	Beef and Broth	Ditto
Thursday	Beef-Broth.	Rice-Milk	Ditto
Friday	Milk-Por- ridge	Beef and Broth	Ditto
Saturday	Beef-Broth.	Hafty-Pud- ding	Ditto

A Letter from the Reverend Mr. Parfect, Minister at Stroud, to the Secretary of the Society at London for
promoting Christian Knowledge.

SIR,

Nov. 9. 1723.

SOON after the Proposals above-mentioned the were made, the Vestry came to a Resolution to the build an House, and appointed seven Persons Trusto stees to manage that Affair. And they presently the contracted with a Builder, and erected a large convenient

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SOCIETY.

venient Brick-House in the Year 1721, which cost 2601. The Person who built it, worthily consented to be paid by our yearly Charity of 60 l. from the City of Rochester: And the employing that Gift this way was, in the Opinion of a very eminent Lawyer, agreeable to the Will of the Donor; whose principal Design was to promote Industry and good Living among the Poor, and to make their Lives more comfortable to themselves and others, than they commonly are. And how far this House has, and is like to answer what is offered in the Proposals, I now beg Leave to acquaint the

The first Article relates to Parish-Orphans: And they are happily provided for in these Houses. We have now 14 or 15 in ours; who are employ'd in spinning Jersey by a Person of the Parish, who twists and dyes it, and then sells it for Stockings; and some can earn 2 d. per Day in Winter, and 3 d. in the Summer. The Officers receive their Money, and provide every Thing they want. These Children us'd to be kept in poor Families at 2 s. per Par- Week, and bred up in the groffest Idleness and Se. Vice! But now they are inur'd to Labour, and help to maintain themselves, earning at least their n for Diet. And by this Method, a great deal is saved to the Parish, and the Children themselves virtuously and christianly brought up, and made fit for good Services.

I should acquaint you likewise, that we intend not tioned that Spinning shall be their whole Business; but tion to they are to be taught to knit their own Stockings, is True to make their Caps, Aprons, and Shifts; to clean efently the House, make Beds, to assist (as they are able) in e con washing and getting up the Cloaths, dressing of renient Victuals.

Victuals, and fuch other Offices, as will make them good Servants. We put out one Girl this last Week upon good Terms, into a fober Family, and shall do the same by the rest, as they become qualify'd, And this Proposal, as it takes Place in Market. Towns, and populous Parishes, will, I hope, save many a poor Orphan from being ruin'd. We now find Parish-Officers too eager to get rid of them; and they place them out so young with little Money (two Guineas a common Price) to forry Masters, that 'tis little better than murdering them. But when Children are put into a Way of contributing to their own Maintenance, and may be kept in these Houses at little or no Charge to the Parish, till they are old enough for Trades or Services; it can hardly be supposed, that Officers will then be so monstrously cruel, as to go on in the old Road of facrificing them. Besides, I hope those Gen. 1 tlemen will also seriously consider farther, that God of himself defendeth the Fatherless, and will surely be the Avenger of all such as are so void of Bowels of Mercy towards them. The Command is plain and express; Te shall not afflist any Widow, or fatherless ! Child. If thou afflict them in any wife, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their Cry; And my Wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the Sword; and your Wives shall be Widows, and your t Children fatherlefs, Exod. xxii. 22, 23, 24. This t barbarous Practice might indeed be in a good Mea- t fure suppress'd, if his Majesty's Justices of the Peace would fign no Indentures, without enquiring into r the Age of the Children, and the Character and a Circumstances of their intended Masters; or at o least not without an Order of Vestry, sign'd by the Minister of the Parish where such Children g live;

live; who ('tis to be suppos'd) will be very cautious and vigilant in to important a Matter.

But if our Legislators should, in their great Wildom, think fit to revise and make any Additions to the late Act, relating to Work-Houses, it is to be hop'd, that this great Hardship poor Parish-Orphans now lie expos'd to, will be entirely remov'd; and that then a Clause will be likewise added, empowering some of the ablest and discreetest Inhabitants to act always jointly with the Parish-Officers in the Direction of the faid Houses. And by this Method they cannot well fail to answer all the excellent Ends we have so much Reason to exto the pect from them.
The second Article is, to provide for the Aged,

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rs will Sick, and Impotent Poor in these Houses. And he old this End they happily serve in all Respects. We e Gen- have now several very ancient Men, that live as t God comfortably in our House, as any Persons in the ely be Parish. They are wholly remov'd from the Cares vels of and Troubles of this Life, and have little or nothing in and to do, but to prepare themselves for the next. therless When they are sick, we have a convenient Apart-hey cry ment for them, and some of the Women of the House look after them: They have likewise an Aith the pothecary to attend them, and want nothing that ed your their Cases may require. We have one Man in This the House about 56, who has been little better than a common Beggar for many Years: Some Peace Time ago he was brought from another Parish veg into ry ill, and ready to be devour'd with Vermine; ter and and all possible Care was presently taken of him; or at our Apothecary attended him, and the Officers pro-on'd by vided new Cloaths for him. And now, unless he hildren gives over rambling, and continues orderly in the House, House, doing such Work as the Governours think him capable of, our next Care will be to send him to an House of Correction.

We have also a very old deaf Woman in the House, who knits well, and is useful that Way, considering her Age. We have likewise several other Women; and some are able to wash, dress Victuals, &c. and even the most infirm can reel, few, and mend the Childrens Cloaths; and are serviceable in one Respect or other.

The third Proposal was, that all Elderly Women, who were only chargeable to the Parish for their House-Rent, should be accommodated in this House, but we have not one of this Sort; tho' before our House was built, that single Article amounted to near 30 l. per Annum, and occasioned a great deal of Trouble to the Officers of the Parish.

The fourth Article related to fuch Widows as had Children, and commonly large Pensions upon that Account. But neither are we at much Charge this Way. We have only one Woman and her three Children, who are allow'd a Room in the House; but the Mother goes out to work, and the Children spin, and have their own Earnings, maintaining themselves. There were several others, who were Pensioners before; but being healthy, robust Persons, they openly declar'd, that they would drink less strong Beer, &c. and work their Fingers to the Bones, before they would come into the House, or be any longer oblig'd to the Parish. And, I think, I may fafely aver, that they live better now without, than they did before with their monthly Allowances.

A considerable Sum is likewise yearly sav'd to our Parish by the fifth Proposal. For we send now

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such poor travelling People, as fall sick in our Streets, to the Work-house, and not to Ale-houles, as usual; where large Reckonings were prefently run up, and fuch extravagant Things done, that many have pretended themselves sick, for the Sake of being fent to fuch Quarters. But fince we have taken this Course, we have not had half the Trouble as before. A Woman indeed, not long fince, pretended the was in Travail, expecting Money from the Officers to go forward to the next Parish. But being conducted to the House, put to Bed, and made to take Things proper for her Condition, the found the should be detected, and fo foon took an Opportunity to go about her Bufiness; whereas if the had been sent to a Publickhouse, I know not how long her Labour might have lasted.

'Twas propos'd in the last Article, that the Charity-Schools should be annexed to the Work-houses. Ours is so; and very many Advantages attend it. We gave before 25 l. per Annum to a Master and Mistress, with two Chaldrons of Coals, and paid 61. a Year House-Rent. But now, by having such a convenient Room for the School in the Work-house, that one Master and Mistress will ferve for both, we save great Part of this Money, and apply it to a good Use, which we very much wanted it for, viz. to place out our Charity Children to good Trades and Services. Several Boys have already had the Benefit of it; and there are others, who will shortly be qualify'd to receive it. This Method is farther advantageous both to our Charity-Children and Parish-Orphans. For some of the former spin and earn 2 d. or 3 d. per Day; and o have not only their Education, Cloaths, and Mo-

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ney to place them out , but partly maintain themfelves, even while they are at School, by being thus fet to Work, and carrying Home their Earnings to their Parents. The latter, viz. the poor Parish-Orphans, have likewife the Opportunity of good Initruction with their Labour, and are allow'd fufficient Time every Day for their Learning. 'Tis a great Pleasure to me to visit them often, to see them sometimes industrious at their Wheels, sometimes diligent at their Books; and to find them Mornings and Evenings devoutly praying to God for themselves and Benefactors, and singing Plalms, and praifing him for these fignal Mercies vouchfased unto them. Amongst these Children, we have a poor Girl, who, before the was taken into the House, was the most miserable Wretch upon Earth. Her Face is fadly burnt and disfigured; and being almost blind, the did nothing but creep about begging in the Streets; and such a lamentable Spectacle, as, I think, was hardly ever feen. But, I thank God, there is a great Alteration in her Circumstances; and the is now as happy, as before the was milerable. This poor Creature has a good Memory, and a foft, pleafant Voice; and 'tis delightful to heat her repeat Bishop Ken's Hymns, which her Mifires has taught her. Neither is she altogether useless in the House; she helps about the Beds, and makes a shift to do some other little Things in it.

This, Sir, is the present State of our House; and, I hope, it shews the Proposals to be practicable in every Part of them. They are likewise altogether as advantageous to the whole Parish. Our House was open'd about Midsummer 1722, and presently check'd fi the Growth of our Rates, which were in a fair I Way to have rifen to such an Height, that I verily believe,

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believe, the Inhabitants could never have been able to have paid them. As foon as we had refolv'd upon this Undertaking, 'twas agreed that our Charity from Rochester, should be reserv'd to pay for the Building; and that 60 l. is fav'd entire for that Purpose every Year. Besides which, our Poor-Rates decrease; notwithstanding several chargeable Accidents about Settlements, &c. have happened; and we have been at a confiderable Expence in furnishing the House. And 'tis easie to shew, (and, I believe, most of the Parishioners are convinc'd of it) that in a little Time they will not be oblig'd to raise above 100 l. per Year, whereas the Rates (exclusive of the Rochester Charity) lately amounted to 230 l. and were still rising. Besides, the Money now expended in the House, circulates duly among the Tradesmen of the Parish, who serve it in their Turns, and have their Bills regularly paid. Whereas, what Money the Poor receiv'd before, was for the most part idly and extravagantly spent, and did little real service to themselves or their Neighbours. But more of this will be seen from the Rule's of the House, and the Method of keeping our Books; which I will likewise send you, as soon as I have Time to copy them.

Such are the Advantages which we do, and shall reap from our Work-house; and that without in it. farming it out, without pinching the Poor, or get-; and, ting rid of our poor Orphans after a cruel and unable in Christian Manner. But give me Leave, Sir, to add, gether that there are still more behind; Great and Noble se was ones. For blessed is the Man, that provideth for the neck'd fick and needy: The Lord will deliver him in the a fair Time of Trouble. This Work and Labour of Love, verily will testify our Gratitude to our great Benefactor and Redeemer, and entitle us to his Favour and Mercy. Inasmuch, He will say at the great Day of Judgment, as ye have done done it unto one of the least of these my Brethren, ye have done it unto me.

I think I have nothing further to trouble the Society with at present, but only to affure them

that I am, SIR,

Their most oblig'd, and most obedient bumble Servant,

Ca. Parfect.

An Extract of Several Letters, giving an Account of Work-houses ser up in the County of Essex, viz.

Barking, alias Bury-king.

SIR, March 13, 1724.

In the Year 1721, the Parish took a House upon a Lease for 30 Years, at 10 l. per Annum, and having sitted it up with necessary Accommodations for receiving the poor Pensioners of the Parish, they open'd at Christmas the same Year. It will conveniently lodge about 48 People, two in a Bed; and there is a small Infirmary built on the Backside of the House, but the People are generally in so good Health, that there has been hitherto little Occasion to use it.

The Number of Poor now in the House is,

4 old Men from 5.0 to 80 Years of Age.

3 Boys

3 Girls

Efrom 4 to 7 Years old.

20.

Their

ir and Their Employment is picking Oakum, at which ay of they earn altogether about 20 l. per Annum; the Maof the terials for this Sort of Work being Pieces of old Cable, or Junk (as it is call'd,) are bought of two le the Merchants, one at Rotherbith, near Three Mariners them Stairs, and the other at Cuckold's Point, and cost from 7 s. to 10 s. per hundred Weight; which is fold again in Oakum for 10s. or 12s. per hundred.

Or in spun Yarn at 2 d. per Pound.

Or in Rope Yarn at 2d. per l. or 16s. 8 d. per C. Wt.

For all these are made out of old Cable.

The Women knit and mend Stockings for the whole Family, make Beds, and keep the House in clean, and sometimes pick Oakum.

The Steward and his Wife have the Government of the Family; he buys all Necessaries for Food at the Market, and the takes Care for dreffing it.

The Victuals is divided into Messes, 4 Persons to a Mess; and this being a cheap Country for Flesh, they have 4 Flesh Days in the Week.

Bread and Beer are allow'd to all without Limitation. They have Roast Beef at the three great Festivals,

and Plumb-Pudding at Christmas.

The Poor's Rate here is reduc'd from 2 s. to 1 s. in the Pound, and the Poor better provided for.

## Malden, Essex.

SIR, Jan. 30. 1724.

Have inform'd my self of the State of our Work-house; and, as you desir'd, send you thele Particulars. The Reverend Dr. Plumb, a Native of this Place, left by his Will several Lands, with confiderable Sums of Money for charitable

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Age.

Their

Uses in Malden, one of which was the Building and Endowing a Work-house, What the particular Sum is, that was defign'd for the Work-house, does not yet appear; For the Remainder, after the Discharge of all Debts and Legacies, was to be affign'd for this Ule.

Now, tho' feveral of the Trustees were Inhabitants and Magistrates of the Town, and the Town grievously oppress'd with the Weight of the Poor's Rates; yet, for some Reasons, it was not thought proper to demand the Money for the Work-house of the Executor, for several Years after the Doctor's Death: But about 10 Years ago, the Work-house was built, which cost about a thousand Pounds: and about two hundred more was laid out for Goods and Utenfils.

It's faid, there is about 700 1. still behind, which is to be laid out in Land for the Support of the Work-house; but the Trustees do not yet think

fit to demand it.

Before this Provision was made, our Poor's Rates were from three to five Shillings in the Pound per Annum; but now one Shilling in the Pound is the ordinary Stint in our Parish, and the other two Parishes about half as much. There are now not twenty poor People in the Work-house; for this is one constant good Effect of it, that many of the Poor will endeavour to live of themselves, rather than be so provided for. I think this is all you defired to know, and therefore, with due Respects, I remain, SIR. &c.

St. Alban's, Hertfordshire.

SIR, Sept. 18. 1724. N Answer to your Enquiries about our Workhouse, we have 20 Men

20 Men and Women from 50 to 80 Years old, lodg'd and dieted here in a House provided by the Town, and they are imploy'd in winding Cotton-Wick for the Tallow-Chandlers, at which they earn, one with another, about 2 d. a Day.

10 Boys 2 from 4 to 14 Years of Age, one with a4 Girls nother, earn likewise about 2 d. a Day,
the Boys at making Horse-whips for Jockeys,
&c. the Materials for which are found by a Sadler in the Neighbourhood; and the Girls at
Spinning both Linnen and Woollen.

Flax is bought for 6 d. per. Pound prepar'd for Spinning; and 8 Pound, when spun up, will serve

to make a Pair of Sheets.

The Wool is furnish'd by a Clothier, ready prepar'd for Spinning into Jersey, who gives from 7 d. to 14 d. a Pound for Spinning it, according to the Fineness of it.

The Wheels are provided at the Publick Charge, but then with Care they last many Years, so that there has been no Occasion to buy any since opening the House 1720, when two dozen were provided at 25.6 d. each.

The House is an old Building, partly Brick, and partly Plaister, well repair'd for the Purpose, and will accommodate 100 People: There is an Acre and an half of Ground belonging to it, and the whole cost the Town about 250 l. out of which they let as much to a Gardener as yields 10 l. per Annum.

As for the Furniture, the poor People generally bring in their Bedding, and some other small Necessaries, of which an Inventory is taken when they are brought to the House, so that there has been no Occasion to buy more than three Beds, and a few other Things.

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70 Yards of Cloth, at 2 s. per Yard, has, with the Assistance of a Taylor, serv'd to make and mend what was necessary of wearing Apparel, for 4 Years past, joyn'd with the old Cloaths brought to the House by the Poor.

As to Linnen, we spin all we have Occasion for, and buy the Flax at the Rate abovementioned.

But that you may be more perfectly acquainted with the Expence of our Management, it is necessary that I give you some Account of our Kitchen Provisions, either weekly, monthly, or yearly, by which you may estimate the whole.

Beef, 72 Pound Weight, at 2 d. ½ per Pound, or 20 d. per Stone, serves the House one Week. If we don't lay in so much Beef, for Variety, we make up the Weight mention'd with Mutton, Pork, or Veal, at the same Price, when they are in Season.

Flower, 2 Bushels at 4 s. per Bushel, serves a Week for Bread and Puddings.

Milk, 7 Gallons at 4 d: per Gallon, serves a Week. Butter, half a Firkin, containing about 40 l. at

4 d. per Pound, serves us two Months.

Cheese, three hundred Weight of Cheshire and Gloucestershire, at 3 d. \(\frac{1}{2}\) per Pound, serves us two Months.

As to Beer, we buy so good at 5 s. per Barrel, 36 Gallons to the Barrel, that we think we should not save much by brewing it, all Things consider'd; and 1 ½ Barrel serves one Week.

I come now to give you an Account of some in-

cidental Charges.

Roots and Fruit, at the Seasons for them, 55.

Value serves one Month.

Sugar, 28 Pound, at the Rate of 30 s. per. hundred, serves one Month.

Salt,

Salt, Pepper, &c. 3 s. Value, serves a Month. vith Soap, one Firkin, containing 30 l. at 7 d. per and Pound, serves a Month. for Candles, 7 dozen, at 6 s. per dozen, serve a Year. Coals, 7 Chaldron, at 40 s. per Chaldron, serve a Year. But to help out these for baking, &c. we add,

L. s. d. L. s. d. 3 Load of Billets at 16 s. per 32 08 07 600 Faggots, at 12 s. per hun- \ 3 12 0 6 00 0 dred, each Year, ----

With the Materials beforementioned, our weekly Bill of Fare is furnish'd.

If any are fick, they are well nurs'd, and taken Care of by the Women of the House, in an Apartment for that Purpose; and to super-intendall, we have a discreet Man and his Wife, who, for 151. per Annum, and an Apartment in the House, with the Kitchen Fare, takes Care of every Thing: The Man keeps the Accounts of the House, both of what comes in, and what goes out, or is expended, in a Method prescribed by the Overseers.

By the Narrative I have given, you will apprehend the Reason why I could not give you an Account, stated by way of Debtor and Creditor, as you defired, our Expences being so various, some Articles being weekly, others monthly, and fome yearly: But the good Effects of our Management is apparent from the Reduction of our Rates for

the Poor, as follows.

Disbursements. In the Year 1720 we were rated 6s. 3566 19 032 in the Pound, and disburs'd \$566 19 032 Pound, and disburs'd\_\_\_\_\_\_ \ 5, in the \ 5,16 19 02\frac{1}{2}

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So that, by this Management, we have in about four Years Time, reduc'd our Poor's Rates above half, and hope to fave more hereafter, now our House, and other extraordinary Charges are paid for; Articles not to be avoided at the Beginning of

fuch an Undertaking.

Give me Leave to warn you and your Friends, not to promife your selves too much from the Produce of the Labour of the People, when they engage in fuch a Management for the Publick Good: It mult be consider'd, the Men and Women are generally old and helpless, and the Children perfectly raw and unexperienced in every Thing; so that if you keep them employ'd, tho' the Produce be no more than what will pay for the Articles of Firing and Candle, it is fomething not to be despis'd: And what is still of greater Consequence is, that by keeping them employ'd, you keep them in Health, and from Idleness, the Parent of most Disorders in Society, as House-breaking, robbing on the Highway, thieving of all kinds, Beggary, Lying, Sedition, and even a total Depravity of Manners: When the Poor are habituated to work, they are ready to do every Thing in their Power, at one Sort of Labour or other.

How pleasing must it be to a good Man, to help such People as do their utmost not to be burthensome to the Publick, especially when so small a Matter as 20 d. or 2 s. a Week, with frugal Management, will rescue an Object of Charity from a starving Condition, and find him a clean warm Lodging, with three Meals a Day, and wholesome Food: To which it must be added, that, besides the Charity of it, the good Man delivers himself and his Neighbours from the Clamours of common Beggars; an Advantage we were never happy in before, till we fell into this Way of employing the Poor.

Before this Management, it cost us at least 30 l. per Annum for House-Rent, and 15 or 20 l. per Annum to an Apothecary for Medicines, both which Articles are now entirely sav'd.

Nor are we of little Service to London, as we are a great Thorough-fare, the Strollers that were wont to pass this Way, can no longer live in our

Air, unless they will submit to work.

I must also acquaint you, that the principal Advantage to the Publick, by encouraging these Foundations, arises from the Spirit of Industry that is provok'd by it among the Poor. Many of our People, who before chiefly depended on what they could get weekly or monthly, by teezing the Overseers of the Poor, now buckle to Labour; and since they find they must give their Labour to the Publick, if they will depend on the Publick, they have exerted themselves, got Wheels and Materials for Spinning, and work early and late to avoid coming into the Work-house; not that we use any Severity there to fright them from it, but they choose to be accountable to themselves for the

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Produce of their own Labour; and some really seem to live better now, depending on their Industry only, with GOD's Blessing, than when they receiv'd Relief from their respective Parishes. These Families look like so many subordinate Factories to the publick Work-house, they have no Relation to it, except as they conspire by Industry and Emulation to banish Idleness and Beggary from this and the neighbouring Parishes.

If there be any thing else necessary to put this Matter in a clearer Light for your Satisfaction, it

shall be readily communicated by,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant.

## Peterborough, Northamptonshire.

SIR,

Nov. 14. 1724.

Receiv'd yours of November 10. and do heartily approve and commend the good Design of publishing some Account of Work houses, and the Working Charity-Schools; which will certainly tend to the Promoting of Christian Knowledge, by the effectual Ways and Means of obliging young and old to the Practice of the best Duties in our Holy Religion; those of Obedience, Sobriety and Industry, with hearing the Scriptures read to them, and resorting frequently to the Church.

The Work-house in this City meets with great Encouragement, and gives universal Satisfaction, and has set the laudable Example to some other neighbouring Towns, particularly to Wisbech, and

Whittlesea in the Isle of Ely.

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The enclosed Account of Peterborough is from an honest and able Inhabitant of the Parish, who will be ready to answer any other Questions if there be Occasion for them.

N. B. The Account enclosed was as follows.

The Number of the aged poor People 30.

Those that are able employ'd in Knit-ting.

The Number of Children is \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ 19
Those that are able employ'd in Spin-

hole that are able employ'd in Spinning.

In all 49.

The Product of the Labour of the 10 15 034

Out of Purse 148 10 013

Their Weekly Bill of Fare, is much the same as some of the former.

The Manager of the Work-house is Mr. Marryott, whose Salary, by a Contract made between him and the Parish, on the 30th of October 1722, is fifty Pounds a Year, and a Coat of 30 Shillings Value. And the Savings to the Parish out of the former Charge for maintaining the Poor, will best appear by the following Certificate, viz.

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### At a Vestry held the 8th Day of October, 1723.

Parishioners and Inhabitants of St. John Baptist, Peterborough, do certify whom it may concern, That Mr. Matthew Marryott hath put our Parish into such Regulation, touching the Poor of our said Parish, by Erecting a House of Maintenance for the Feeding, Lodging and Cloathing all the Poor of the said Parish, that shall want Relief from the Parishioners, whereby the Parish Rates are likely to come to less than one half of what they formerly were, which for the last 8 Years, one with another, was 499 l. 185. 6d.

But the first half Year, since the Erecting the House of Maintenance, buying of Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Cloathing, and Repairs, amounts to

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The last half Year, since La-3

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Sign'd by the Minister, Church-Wardens, Overseers, and principal Inhabitants.

Artleborough, Northamptonshire.

THE School consists of more than 60 Children of both Sexes taught upon Charity, under

under the Care of one Mistress, assisted by her Husband, whose Industry and good Management has so much recommended itself, that about 40 other Children of substantial Parents, who pay for the Instruction of their Children, come to be taught with the Charity Children.

This School, which now confifts of 100 Children, from 4 to 18 Years of Age, began about 20 Years ago, with a small Number taught to read only; and the Mistres, of her own Accord, put the Children upon Spinning and Knitting, and took the Profits of their Labour for her Trouble in Teaching them: Afterwards, to encourage the Childrens Industry, she contented her self with Two-pence a Week from the Earnings of those that Spun, Threebalf-pence a Week from those that Knit, and an Allowance of a Penny Weekly for those that only learn'd to read. And that the Children might gain the more for their own and their Parents Support, two publick spiritted Persons, one upon the Place, and the other at London, ( whose Names deserve to be mentioned with Honour, if they would permit it) paid all the Pence, Three-half-pences, and Two-pences, that, according to this Rule, the Mistress was entitled to: So that now only One penny a Week is deducted from the Earnings of each Spinner, till the Wheel and Reel are paid for, which they make Use of, and take away when they leave the School: And when any of the Spinners or Knitters want to be cloathed, Six-pence a Fortnight is deducted out of their Respective Earnings for that Purpose.

The Children earn, some Twelve-pence, others Eighteen-pence or Two Shillings, and the most diligent Two Shillings Six-pence a Week: And the Parents and their Advantage so much in the Children's Lear-

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ning, that in the Summer they fend them to School at 5 or 6 a Clock in the Morning, where they continue till 8 or 9 at Night; and in the Winter from 6 or 7 in the Morning, till 7 or 8 at Night; allowing

only a little Intermission for Dinner.

Two Men, one from Northampton, and the other from Wellingborough, supply the School every Fortnight with Jersey (or Wool prepar'd) for Spinning and Yarn for Knitting, and at the same time pay for the Earnings of the Children: Most of what is Spun, is carried to Coventry, to be wrought into Stuffs, Serges, Shalloons, and other Things.

One of the publick Spirited Persons above-mentioned did, about nine Years ago, build a large House, which will hold, on two Floors, 76 Wheels, so contrived, that the Mistress might see both Floors at the same time, and direct all the Children at Pleasure.

There is a Charity Box at the Door, which is open'd once a Year, and the Money found therein

equally distributed among the Children.

The Mistress takes all the Children one Day after Harvest into the Bean-fields, where they gather and lay in Heaps, as much Bean-stubble as serve them for Firing all Winter; the Farmers, at their Leifure, carrying it to the School-House Gratis. And upon all Confiderations, the Contributions for up holding this School do not generally exceed Thueni Pounds per Annum; whereas the Profits of it even Fortnight, are from Twenty to Twenty-five Pounds which is g or 600 l. per Ann. benefit to the Town The Work of these Children is so ordered, that it is no Manner of hindrance to their Learning to Read, and fay the Catechism, the Common Prayer the Collects for the Day, the Bible, and other useful Books of Intruction; and one of the Truftees of the Charity charity of the late Philip Lord Wharton, furnishes hem annually with Bibles, and other good Books.

An Abstract of the Act of the 9th of King GEORGE I. Intituled, An Act for amending the Laws relating to the Settlement, Imployment, and Relief of the Poor.

Poor of any Parish, with the Consent of the Major Part of the Parishioners, in Vestry, or other publick Meeting for that purpose assembled, upon usual Notice given, may purchase or hire any House or Houses in the Parish or Place, and Contract with Persons for the Lodging, Keeping and Employing of poor Persons; and there they are to keep them, and take the Benefit of their Work and Labour, for the better Maintenance and Relief of such Persons. And in Case any poor Person shall resuse to be lodg'd, kept and maintain'd in such House or Houses, such Person shall be put out of the Parish Books, and not entitled to Relief.

Where Parishes are small, two or more of such Parishes, with the Approbation of a Justice of Peace, may unite in Purchasing or Hiring Houses for the Purposes aforesaid. And Church-Wardens, &c. of one Parish, with the Consent of the Major Part of the Parishioners, may contract with the Church-Wardens, &c. of any other Parish, for the Lodging and Maintenance of the Poor.

But no poor Persons, or their Apprentices, Chilren, &c. shall require a Settlement in the Parish, Town, or Place to which they shall be removed, by Virtue of this A&t. Note.

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Form of a Contrast for Lodging and Mainte. nance of Poor, by Virtue of the Statute 9. GEORGE I.

TEmorandum. It is Contracted this Day, &. in the Year, &c. between A. B. and C. D. Church-Wardens, and E.F. and G.H. Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of, &c. and J. K. and L. M. &c. Yeomen, that they the faid F. K. and L. M. or one of them, shall and will, during the space of & & . next coming, at their, or one of their own proper Costs and Charges, in the House of, &c. find, provide and allow, or cause to be found, provided and allowed, unto and for N.O. P. Q. R. S. &c. poor Persons of the Parish of, &c. aforesaid, sufficient Lodging, Meat, Drink, and all other Things necesfary for their, and every of their Keeping and Maintenance: They, the said J. K. and L. M. being paid and allow'd by them the faid A. B. C. D. E. F. &c. the Church-Wardens and Overseers of, &c. aforefaid, the Weekly Sum of, &c. for the same; which they, the faid A. B. C. D. E. F. &c. do hereby Covenant, for themselves and their Successors, well and truly to pay, or cause to be paid to the said 7. K. and L. M. as the same shall become due: Or that they, the faid J. K. and L. M. be allow'd the Work, Labour, and Service of them the faid N. O. P. Q. R. S. &c. from time to time, in such Work and Labour as they the faid J. K. and L. M. shall think fit to employ them about, & In Witness, &c.

Books Printed by and for S. Hyde, Bookseller in Dame-Street.

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Address to Absenters from Publick worship.

The Christian's Daily Devotion. Instructions for Confirmation.

Bishop of Corke's Charity Sermon.

Christian Scholar.

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Bishop Beveridge's Sermon? Cutts, Letter to a prophane Person.

Lewis's Catechism. Synge's Catechism.

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Christian Monitor.

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